## Government and Services Committee\* Meeting Minutes 8/17/21 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM

HB Assembly Members: Cheryl Stickler (Chair), Gabe Thomas, Caitlin Kirby

- I. Call to Order 6:30p
- II. Acceptance of Minutes (7/6/21) M/S Thomas/Kirby
- III. Heliski Industry Code Title 5.24 Discussion

Stickler provided an overview of the topic forwarded to GASC from the Assembly addressing the option of changing Code 5.24 to allow a 4<sup>th</sup> heliski permit. Supporting documents provided to GASC members:

- 1. HBC 5.24
- 2. Current Heliski Map
- 3. 2020 Skier Day Allocation
- **B. Background:** Industry leaders described the heliski industry how it works; its intricacies; considerations; etc. Each provided input regarding adding a 4<sup>th</sup> permit. Comments included: assigning tenure to operators as per B.C. practices (not unanimously supported by current operators); expanding terrain boundaries; regulating permits through numbers of skier days and/or number of hours; allocate 500 skier days to 4 operators reserving 600 days for purchase as needed at a premium price. Operators providing comment:
  - 1. Erin Bills, Tim Thomas, Nick Trimble SEABA
  - 2. Sean Brownell Alaska Heliskiing
  - 3. Sean Gaffney Alaska Mountain Guides
  - 4. Reggie Crist Stellar Adventure Travel
- C. Public Comment provided by: Mark Kelly, Thom Ely, Cameron Banko, Andrew Letchworth, Joe Eppler, Austin Shannon, Dan Van, Lee Hart, Yancy Caldwell, Charlie Stewart, David Sundnas, Patty Kermoian, Liz Cornejo, Steve Fossman, Don Tuner, Jr., Eric Holle, Katy Palmer
- D. GASC Comments & Recommendation

Kirby and Stickler voiced need for more time to separate feedback into objective and subjective points, as well as sift for common themes/topics. Thomas requested more time for further deliberation and research. Mayor Olerud encouraged the committee to take the necessary time to make a rational decision.

IV. Adjourn 8:57p